

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:310
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2000
BARREN LAND TO DALITS
RAJO SINGH

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some State Governments have demanded financial assistance for the reclamation of barren land for providing it to dalits and other backward classes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the area of the barren land provided to these people after making the same cultivable in the country;
- (d) whether the Union Government have issued any instructions to the States for making more and more land cultivable under the Land Reclamation Programme; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO.310 TO BE ANSWERED ON 11 DECEMBER, 2000 IN THE LOK SABHA.

(a)to(c): Barren land refers to exposed steep mountain slopes, snow covered and such other areas, which cannot be brought under cultivation at an economical cost, hence there is no scheme for development of such areas. However, for wastelands, there is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, namely, Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP) being implemented by Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development. Statewise Projects sanctioned is annexed.

(d)&(e): The National Agriculture Policy, recently announced by the Central Government envisages redistribution of wastelands among the landless farmers and unemployed youth. It has since been decided to prepare an Action Plan for implementation of National Agriculture Policy in consultation with all concerned Ministries/Departments of Government of India and the State Governments.

ANNEXURE

State-wise Project and Area sanctioned under IWDP (1995-96 to 1999-2000).

S.No.	State	Total Project sanctioned	Total Area (hectare)
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1.	Andhra Pradesh	19	209934
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2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	1500
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3.	Assam	4	34279
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4.	Bihar	2	7273
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5.	Gujarat	14	144619
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6.	Haryana	2	17445
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7.	Himachal Pradesh	9	99921
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8. Jammu & Kashmir 3 26880

9. Karnataka 14 172004

10. Kerala 1 10080

11. Maharashtra 9 101654

12. Manipur 7 66468

13. Madhya Pradesh 20 162659

14. Meghalaya 2 11011

15. Nagaland 7 76000

16. Orissa 15 108374

17. Punjab 1 550

18. Rajasthan 13 91122

19. Sikkim 6 55329

20. Tamil Nadu 11 67435

21. Uttar Pradesh 32 357054

Total 192 1821591